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October 25, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Art Unit: 1631 Examiner: A.H. Marschel

Conf. No.: 7754

Re:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/987,899 filed November 16, 2001

Inventors: Nordine CHEIKH et al.

Title:

Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated

With the Carbon Assimilation Pathway

Atty. Dkt: 16517.258

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

- 1. Response to Notice of Non-Responsive Communication mailed September 23, 2004;
- 2. Second Revised Response to Office Action mailed December 2, 2003; and
- 3. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any additional fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter LLP Deposit Account No. 50-2387, referencing docket number 16517.258. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Sincerely.

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408) Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Nordine CHEIKH et al.

Appln. No.: 09/987,899

Filed:

November 16, 2001

Conf. No.:

7754

Art Unit:

1631

Examiner:

A.H. Marschel

Atty. Docket: 16517.258

For:

Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with the Carbon

**Assimilation Pathway** 

## Response to Notice of Non-Responsive Communication

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the notice of non-responsive communication mailed September 23, 2004, which alleged that Applicants failed to inactivate all of the hyperlinks in Applicants first response to notice of non-compliant communication mailed July 2, 2004, Applicants submit herewith a second amended copy of the Amendment and Response, which was first filed on March 2, 2004, and an accompanying transmittal letter. The response has been amended to remove active hyperlinks by amendments to the specification beginning on page 2 of the Response.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice of such is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned should any additional information be necessary for allowance.

U.S. Ser. No. 09/987,899 Nordine CHEIKH *et al.* 

Atty. Dkt.: 16517.258

Page 2

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe that any fees in addition to those provided for in the accompanying documents, are due at this time. However, if any fees are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, authorization to charge such fees is given in the accompanying transmittal letter.

Respectfully, submitted,

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408) Thomas E. Holsten (Reg. No. 46,098)

ARNOLD & PORTER LLP

Date: October 25, 2004

Correspondence Address: MONSANTO COMPANY Patent Department 800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard Mailzone E2NA St. Louis, Missouri 63167



In re Patent Application of:

Nordine CHEIKH et al.

Appl. No.: 09/987,899

Filed: November 16, 2001

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Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with the Carbon

Art Unit: 1631
Examiner: Ardin H. MARSCHEL

Atty. Docket: 16517.258

Assimilation Pathway

## Second Revised Response to Office Action mailed December 2, 2003

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Communication mailed September 23, 2004 indicating that the Applicant's response filed July 2, 2004 was non-responsive to the Office Action mailed December 2, 2003 (Paper No. 10) (hereinafter the "Office Action"), Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.